

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 231291

FOR WORTZEL FROM SCHMIDT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. WEIL VISIT. THE LAST MINUTE CHANGES IN ASSISTANT SECRETARY WEIL'S SCHEDULE HAVE BEEN A DISAPPOINTMENT, TO PUT IT MILDLY. EARLY LAST WEEK WE HAD SOME INKLING THAT WEIL MIGHT CANCEL THE TRIP TO YUGOSLAVIA SINCE HIS WORK ON THE EXPORT TASK FORCE FORCED CANCELLATION OF THE STOPS IN HUNGARY AND THE GDR. WITH THE HELP OF A BILL LUERS PHONE CALL (AND THE THREAT OF THE AMBASSADOR'S EVERLASTING WRATH), WE THOUGHT THAT WE KEPT THE VISIT ON TRACK. WE PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER.

2. ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON (SEPTEMBER 8) WE LEARNED FROM ALEX DAUMAN THAT HE HAD PHONED BRUCE MCMULLEN TO TELL HIM THE VISIT WAS BEING SHORTENED. THAT WAS THE FIRST WE HEARD OF A DEFINITE CHANGE FROM THE ORIGINAL ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE
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SCHEDULE. TODAY (SEPTEMBER 12), BEFORE HIS MEETING WITH BELOVSKI, I TALKED WITH WEIL ABOUT THE TRIP. IT WAS READILY APPARENT THAT WEIL'S STAFF AND OUR "FRIENDS" AT COMMERCE HAD NOT INFORMED HIM OF THE DESIRABILITY OF BEING IN ZAGREB FOR THE OPENING CEREMONIES OR OF THE EMBASSY'S PLANS FOR ACTIVITIES ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18. WEIL REGRETS THAT HE WILL HAVE SO LITTLE TIME AND SUGGESTED THAT WE ASK YOU TO MAKE

WHATEVER ARRANGEMENTS YOU CAN FOR HIM TO MEET WITH YUGO-SLAV ECONOMIC OFFICIALS OVER THE WEEKEND. FOR EXAMPLE, HE WONDERED IF HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO MEET SOME PEOPLE INFORMALLY AT THE AMBASSADOR'S ON SUNDAY, PERHAPS AT POOLSIDE. HE MUST BE BACK IN WASHINGTON ON TUESDAY BECAUSE OF FURTHER WORK ON THE EXPORT TASK FORCE.

3. WEIL-BELOVSKI MEETING. COMMERCE WILL BE SENDING A REPORT ON TODAY'S MEETING, BUT WE WANTED TO BE SURE YOU HAD SOMETHING ON THE MEETING BEFORE WEIL'S ARRIVAL. BOTH BELOVSKI AND WEIL PLAYED DOWN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND AGREED THAT THE WORKING GROUPS COULD BEST SERVE AS "AN ATTENTION GETTING MECHANISM" TO MOVE ISSUES THROUGH THE BUREAUCRACIES. WEIL SUGGESTED OCTOBER 16 AS A TENTATIVE DATE FOR THE FIRST FULL SESSION OF THE WASHINGTON GROUP. BELOVSKI AGREED AND THERE WAS SOME BRIEF DISCUSSION OF A GENDA ITEMS. THE YUGOSLAVS MENTIONED THE ITC RECOMMENDATION OF DUTY INCREASES ON FERROCHROMIUM AND GSP. WE MENTION COUNTERTRADE, BUSINESS FACILITATION, AND THE LOSS OF DJERDAP II SALE. OBVIOUSLY, BOTH SIDES WILL BE ADDING ADDITIONAL ITEMS. THERE WAS ALSO AGREEMENT THAT THE WASHINGTON MEETINGS WILL SERVE PRIMARILY TO FOCUS ON ISSUES RAISED BY THE YUGOSLAVS; AND THE BELGRADE MEETINGS WILL BE OUR OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE ISSUES OF INTEREST TO US. EITHER SIDE WOULD, HOWEVER, CONFIDENTIAL

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STILL BE FREE TO RAISE ANY MATTER IN WASHINGTON OR BELGRADE. CHRISTOPHER

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